MOTION ON THE DEMISE OF HIS HIGHNESS THE MAHARAJA OF COCHIN.

President: The time for questions having lapsed, we will pass on to the next item.

Before passing to the next item in the business it is my duty to place before this House a resolution designed to convey to His Highness the present Maharaja of Cochin, to the Cochin Government and to the people of Cochin, our feelings of deep sympathy and sorrow in regard to the passing away of the late Maharaja of Cochin who, amongst other things, was a true and trusted friend of Travancore and their Government and who through his Government and personally was always co-operating fully in all the joint endeavours of the two States. He was a fine type of Ruler and his loss is a great loss not only to Cochin but to India as a whole. I trust we shall carry the resolution in the usual manner standing and that I shall be empowered to convey that resolution to Cochin.

The resolution was put and carried unanimously, all standing.

THE DEWAN-PRESIDENT'S STATEMENT

Fellow Members of the Sri Chitra State Council,

I now proceed to place before this House a Message from His Highness the Maharaja and also to address some remarks to this honourable House on certain other matters of immediate importance. The Message though it is the same as the one that I placed before the other House is being delivered to this House also after the desire of His Highness and His Highness' Government to treat this House as occupying the same position as the other House and as entitled to the fullest elucidation of Government's proposals and ideals. The Message that I am delivering on behalf of His Highness at this moment—and I give it the primacy because after finishing that Message I shall have to deal with certain other matters in the course of my speech—is embodied in the Press Communique which was issued regarding constitutional reforms. I have received in this connection a letter from Mr. K. S. Joseph to the President of the Sri Chitra State Council which reads:

> "I hereby ask for leave to move for an adjournment of the House to discuss a definite matter of urgent public importance, *viz.*, the proposals placed by Government before the Sovereign for the Proclamation of a new Constitution Act, as envisaged in the Government Press Communique dated 3-6-1121.

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